

In re Application of: Denison et al.
Serial Number: 10/024,945

installing a communication port connected to the microprocessor-based control circuit for accessing the non-volatile memory, the communication port being distinctive from the keypad;
and writing said manufacturer-inserted permanent access code to the non-volatile memory through the communication port.

43. (New) An electronic access control device comprising:
a keypad having at least one row of keys mounted thereon, including a program key, for pressing by a user to enter user input;
a microprocessor-based control circuit including a microprocessor and a non-volatile memory storing a manufacturer-inserted permanent access code,
the microprocessor-based control circuit being connected to the keypad for receiving user inputs entered through pressing the keys of the keypad, the microprocessor being configured to detect a pressing of the program key, receive a first key code through the keypad in response to detecting the pressing of the program key, compare the first key code with the permanent access code in the non-volatile memory, receive a second key code through the keypad, and store the second key code in the volatile memory as an access code for the access control device if the first key code matches the permanent access code in the non-volatile memory.

44. (New) An electronic access control device as in claim 43, wherein the microprocessor is further configured to display an error message if it detects that the program key has been pressed out of sequence.